[21st March 1953

*Lignite deposit in Cannanore, North Malabar.*

* 117 *Q.*—Sri M. NARAYANA KURUP :—Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether deposits of red lignite have been located in and around Cannanore, North Malabar; and

(*b*) whether the Government have considered the possibility of exploiting the same?

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" (*a*) It is not clear what is meant by red lignite. It is presumed that the member refers to ordinary lignite (brown coal). If so, the answer is in the affirmative.

" (*b*) Yes, Sir.

Mr. Ghose, Officer-in-charge, Lignite Investigation, South Arcot, and the officers of the Geological Survey of India who conducted investigation into the matter were of the opinion that, in view of the limited extent of the lignite deposits known at present under the town and of the indications that sea water is saturating the lignite bed, there was no use in further exploring the deposits at Cannanore. Further investigation was, therefore, dropped."

*Constitution of new panchayats.*

* 118 *Q.*—Sri K. R. VISWANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are subsidizing Class II panchayats under section 71 of the Panchayats Act;

(*b*) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(*c*) when the Government propose to give effect to the scheme of opening new panchayat boards for villages with a population of not less than 500?

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" (*a*) Not so far.

" (*b*) In view of the fact that new panchayats under the Madras Village Panchayats Act, 1950, have not yet been formed and classified, the consideration of the question of land revenue allotment to be provided under section 71 of the Act has been deferred for the present.

" (*c*) The question of constituting new panchayats for villages in non-panchayat areas in accordance with the provisions of the Madras Village Panchayats Act, 1950, will be taken up after elections to the existing panchayats are completed."

SRI K. R. VISWANATHAN :—" May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that the Government are postponing the starting of new panchayats simply because they could not spare enough money for subsidizing the second-class panchayats? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" The Government's intention has been made clear, Sir."

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SRI S. NARAYANAPPA :—" May I know, Sir, in view of the formation of the new Andhra State whether the Government are considering the question of postponing elections to major panchayats in the State?"

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" No, Sir."

SRI M. NARAYANASWAMI :—" అర్యా, ఈ రాష్ట్రంలోని మేజరు పంచాయతీలుగా మైనరు పంచాయతీలు మార్పుచేయటానికి ఏమైనా ప్రయత్నాలు జరుగుచున్నవా? ఆంధ్రరాష్ట్ర సమస్య ఏమైనా అడ్డు వస్తున్నదా?"

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" No such thing, Sir."

SRI V. SRI KRISHNA :—" రాజ్యాంగ చట్టము ప్రకారం, పంచాయతీ ఎలెక్షనులు జరపటానికి కొత్తగా తయారైన లిస్టుప్రకారం జరపవలసివుంటే, క్రొత్త లిస్టులు తయారైన తర్వాతగూడా సుమారు మాసం రోజులవరకూ పాతలిస్టులే అమలుపర్చారు. దీనిపై ప్రభుత్వానికి పిటిషన్లు వచ్చాయా? వస్తే ఏమిచర్య తీసుకున్నారు?"

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" Elections are being conducted according to the existing lists, Sir."

SRI G. C. KONDAYYA :—" కొత్త పంచాయతీ చట్టముప్రకారం రకరకాల పన్నులు కట్టవలసివుంది. ఈ చట్టము ఎప్పుడు అమలులోనికి వచ్చిందండి?"

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" Sir, the Act is in force from March 1951 onwards."

SRI K. MALAKONDAYYA :—" టంగుటూరు పంచాయతీ బోర్డు యిదివరకు మేజరు పంచాయతిగావుండె యిప్పుడు మైనరు పంచాయతీగా చేయటానికి ఆర్డర్లు ఇచ్చిన విషయం మంత్రిగారికి తెలుసునా? అదే నిజమైతే ఏమి సమాధానం చెబుతారు?"

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" Certain provisions after the present Act came into force, have become defective. Any defect which comes to the notice of the Government is rectified according to the Act."

SRI G. LATCHANNA :—" Is it a fact that a Sub-Committee of the Cabinet was appointed to study the present Panchayat Act and bring forward an Amending Bill? If so, may I know the stage at which it stands now?"

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member may put a separate question."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" A legislation for constituting villages with a population of not less than 500 into panchayats was passed by the Legislature in 1950 and we are now in 1953. There is so much inordinate delay from the day the legislation was passed to the day when it should be given effect to. Will the Government explain this inordinate delay?"

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" If there is any delay, this Government is not responsible for it. We are reconstituting the existing old panchayats and after that, the formation of new panchayats will be taken up."

SRI V. K. RAMASAMI MUDALIAR :—" Inasmuch as the constitution of these new panchayats has to be postponed, will the Government consider the desirability of retrenching the staff as many Deputy Panchayat Officers and District Panchayat Officers have been recently appointed? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" Only a few people were appointed to conduct the elections."

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" Has there not been State-wide opposition to the method of voting adopted in the recent Panchayat elections and what were the thoughts given to those representations? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" There are some representations that the system of secret ballot should be introduced. But I think the present system of open elections for Class II Panchayats is cheap."

SRI K. RAMIAH CHOUDARI :—" ఇప్పుడు జరిగేటటువంటి పంచాయతీ ఎలెక్షన్సులో, పై ఆఫీసర్లు చాలామంది తిరస్కరించారని వార్తలు వచ్చినవా ? " దీన్ని గురించి ప్రభుత్వము ఏమిచర్య తీసుకొంటుంది ? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" Sir, complaints have been received only in a few cases."

*Report on the reorganization of the Secretariat.*

* 119 *Q.*—

MR. SPEAKER :—" As the hon. Member, Sri V. Chidanandam is not in his seat. the question and answer will be printed in the proceedings."

SRI V. CHIDANANDAM : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to place on the table of the House a copy of the report of Sri Venkateswaran, I.C.S., Special Officer for Secretariat Reorganization and state the action taken on it by the Government?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" A departmental report of this kind is not to be placed on the table of the House. When action is taken, suitable publicity will be given to the reorganization ordered."

## UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

***Provision of libraries in schools attached to slums.***

5 *Q.*—SRI A. RATHINAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have provided libraries in the schools attached to slums as per the recommendations of the Harijan Welfare Committee, Madras; and